

RIDING YOUR BICYCLE SAFELY

Spring is just around the corner and that means many of us will be getting out of the house for some fresh air and fun. There is no better way to enjoy the warm weather than to ride your bicycle. Below are some bicycle safety tips brought to you by the Community Services Unit of the Kannapolis Police Department.

- Every safe bike ride begins with putting

sure the seat, handlebars and wheels are secure. Ensure that the chain is tight and properly oiled. Check your brakes to make sure they are not sticking. Finally, check the pressure in your tires to make sure they are properly inflated.



on a helmet. All bicyclists, regardless of age, can help protect themselves by wearing a properly fitted helmet every time they ride. (In North Carolina, anyone under the age of 16 must wear a bicycle helmet – but we encourage everyone to.) It is important to always wear your helmet the right way so that it will protect you. Make sure it covers your forehead and always fasten the straps.

- Inspect your bike before each ride. Make

- Always gear up for your ride. Wear bright clothes and use reflectors so that you can be seen. Do not wear baggy clothes that can get caught in the chain and make sure that you are wearing shoes – do not wear sandals or flip flops. You can even wear riding gloves for helping grip the handlebars.
- Inattention is one of the leading causes of bicycle accidents. It is important that you stay aware of your surroundings to

keep yourself and others safe. Never wear headphones while riding and always pay attention to who and what is around you.

- In North Carolina, bicyclists must travel with the flow of traffic. By law, bicycles are basically treated as vehicles. Use bicycle lanes whenever possible.

For more information on bicycle safety or to get a free reflective light for your bike, contact Kannapolis Community Services Police Sergeant Jamie Beach at 704-920-4038 or jbeach@kannapolisnc.gov.

BIKE SAFETY CHECKLIST

- Wear a helmet correctly
- Inspect your bike
- Wear the proper gear
- Pay attention
- Travel with the flow of traffic

THE CITY OF KANNAPOLIS
401 Laureate Way | Kannapolis, NC 28081
704.920.4300
www.kannapolisnc.gov

    
Follow the City on Facebook (facebook.com/cityofkannapolis), Instagram @KannapolisNC, LinkedIn (linkedin.com/company/cityofkanapolis), Nextdoor (nextdoor.com/Kannapolisnc.gov) and Twitter @Kannapolis for regular updates and more ideas for fun.

MARCH 2021

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KANNAPOLIS MATTERS



HELP US RECYCLE RIGHT

Over the last few months, recycling carts in the City have become approximately 20% contaminated. This means we are not recycling properly and the carts are contaminated with trash. Entire truckloads are being rejected by our recycling vendors and then must go to the landfill as trash. Every time this happens, the City is penalized.

- We really need your help to ensure that only items that can be recycled are placed in the recycling cart. Please remember the following:
- The yellow lid cart is for recycling only.
 - The black lid cart is for trash.
 - Bag your trash – DO NOT bag your recycling.
 - Only recycle the materials seen in the graphic on page 2.
 - Construction materials are not recyclable.
 - Grass clippings and yard debris are not recyclable.
 - Food items are not recyclable.
 - Clothing, furniture and carpet are not recyclable.
 - Styrofoam containers/cups are not recyclable.

Not sure if something is recyclable? Check the CARTology app or visit www.kannapolisnc.gov/garbage. When in doubt – throw it out. If an item has a recycling label on it, double check CARTology. Our recycling centers in North Carolina do not accept items that may be recyclable in other areas/states.

Recycling carts that continue to have trash will be tagged and not picked up. Please recycle right and help us be an environmentally-friendly community.



COVID-19 TESTING/VACCINES

Cabarrus and Rowan Counties have COVID-19 testing/vaccine sites scheduled for the month of March.

Anyone experiencing fever, cough and shortness of breath should consider getting tested.

Find testing/vaccine information at www.cabarrushealth.org/555/Coronavirus-Information-Page and at rowancountync.gov/covid-19.





KNOW YOUR NO'S

Don't tangle or contaminate. Recycle right for our state!

 No bagged recyclables (keep them loose and free)	 No tanglers (cords, hoses, wires, etc. tangle in the machinery)	 No small/shredded paper and packaging (small things are hard to sort)	 No cups, no lids, no straws (can't be sorted by the machines)
 No Styrofoam (crumbles in the machinery)	 No paper towels or napkins (often soiled and too thin to recycle)	 No household or car batteries (contain hazardous materials)	 No scrap metal (harms the machinery)
 No pumps or tubes (made of multiple materials that can't be separated for recycling)	 No plastic wraps, pillows or bags (tangles in the machinery)	 No textiles (take to the thrift store)	 No household glass, mirrors or ceramics (can't be remanufactured)
 No aerosol cans (fire hazard)	 No food waste (contaminates the clean recyclables)	 No hazardous or medical waste	 No receipts (can contain non-recyclable layers and chemicals)

The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) is a non-regulatory division of N.C. DEQ offering technical and financial assistance to businesses, manufacturers, local governments, institutions, economic developers and citizens in environmental management. For questions, call 1-877-623-6748. www.recyclenc.org

ENVIRONMENTAL TIP

Our contractors cannot collect trash with yard waste mixed in. Please remember to put yard waste at the curb, not in your trash bin. To learn how to dispose of items and to find your collection schedule, visit kannapolisnc.gov/garbage or download the CARTology app in the Apple and Google play stores.



KANNAPOLIS FARMERS MARKET SEEKING VENDORS FOR SUMMER 2021

The Kannapolis Farmers Market is looking for vendors. If you are a farmer, artisan, crafter or baker, we would love for you to participate in the market.

The market is looking for people who offer a wide variety of fresh, local produce as well as cheese, ice cream, honey, baked goods, spices, jewelry, soaps, candies, crafts, pottery, hand-crafted wood items, art and more. Vendors pay an annual membership fee of \$30 and a weekly rental fee of \$10 per 14-foot space.

The market is open May through September and operates every Thursday from 4-7 p.m. at the corner of Vance Avenue and Dale Earnhardt Boulevard.

For more information on the Farmers Market, visit www.kannapolisnc.gov/farmersmarket. If you are interested in being a vendor, please contact Irene Sacks at isacks@kannapolisnc.gov or 704-920-4326.

KANNAPOLIS HONORED FOR COMMUNICATIONS WORK

The North Carolina Association of Government Information Officers has awarded the City of Kannapolis first place for its work in branding and promotion of the West Avenue Streetscape and Downtown Revitalization Project.

The City was recognized with the Excellence in Communications Award for its strategic communications plan to brand, promote and market the West Avenue Streetscape and Downtown Revitalization Project during the planning, construction and opening of the streetscape.

The Communications Plan included engaging City residents in the process through news releases, social media, email newsletters, maps, photos, a dedicated website, public meetings, hard hat tours, signage and a huge opening event in the Fall of 2019. The goal was to engage and educate the public as the project evolved from the design phase to actual reality. As the

design process began residents were asked to give input on the featured components of the downtown and, as the project moved forward into the construction phase, residents were kept abreast of what was happening. Throughout the multi-year process residents and potential investors in downtown were able to follow the construction process on the City's website, which featured a dedicated page to the downtown project with live camera webcam feeds of the construction, regular updates from elected officials and staff, hard hat tours, news releases, email updates and more.

Since 1970, the North Carolina Association of Government Information Officers (NCAGIO), a 501(c)(6) nonprofit, has been dedicated to the principles of open government. Members are public information officers employed by North Carolina city, county and state government offices, agencies, divisions and/or departments.

CITY FUNDS RENOVATIONS AT GEM THEATRE

The first phase of renovations at the Gem Theatre are now underway. The City of Kannapolis – the owner of the theatre – is funding the projects, which are expected to cost \$1.1 million. The renovations include three major projects: the addition of handicap-accessible restrooms on the first floor; a new HVAC system; and restoration of the historic marquee.

The addition of accessible restrooms on the first floor will be to the left of the theatre entrance, in the adjacent space, which was formerly occupied by Kever's Photography Studio and Coulter's Shoe Store. The area will also include event space and an additional exit corridor, which will relieve congestion in the lobby.

The new heating and air conditioning system will replace an aging



system that is beyond repair.

The iconic Gem Theatre marquee was originally constructed in 1936. Great care is being taken to preserve the historic authenticity of the marquee. City staff are working with experienced professionals to return the marquee to its former glory. Neon lighting will be replaced and original colors, such as the famous blue on the marquee, will be used to restore it accurately to its 1936 condition.

The theatre will be closed during the renovations and will reopen in time for the summer movie blockbusters. The City purchased the theatre property in 2015 as part of the Downtown Revitalization Project. The operations of the Gem Theatre are managed and owned by Steve Morris.

